I.   Rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Reynolds et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,411,993) in view of Friedman et al. (U.S. Patent Application

Publication No. 2003/0208556).

Claim 1 recites "the functional layer comprising a plurality of function modules, each

module for executing a function pertaining to the creation or manipulation of a compilation of

content selected from the plurality of content entities by the user." The Examiner takes the

position that Reynolds teaches this aspect of claim 1 since Reynolds allegedly discloses that an

Ibook server application 64 (which the Examiner asserts is a functional layer) handles different

functions and directs the overall operation of Ibook databases 66-72, has enrollment functions,

downloads tools to the user, and generates a viewer ID.

However, it is respectfully submitted that Reynolds does not teach or suggest that the

Ibook server application server 64 has a plurality of function modules that execute functions

pertaining to the creation or manipulation of a compilation of content selected by a user from the

databases 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and 76 (which the Examiner asserts are a plurality of content

entities).

According to Reynolds, the Ibook server application 64 directs the overall operation of

the Ibook server 56. That is, the Ibook server controls databases 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and 76 in

which Ibook information is stored. Col. 5, lines 23-32. Further, the Ibook server application 64

provides enrollment functions by downloading enrollment tool 88 to Ibook client 60 and storing

enrollment information in the Ibook server databases. Col. 6, lines 1-6.

Even assuming *arguendo* that Reynolds discloses that an Ibook server application server

64 can control databases 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and 76, does not mean that Reynolds teaches or

suggests that the Ibook server application server 64 includes function modules for creating a

compilation of content from one of the databases. More particularly, it is respectfully submitted

that Reynolds neither teaches nor suggests the existence of function modules within the Ibook

server application 64 that compile content selected by a user as required by claim 1.

Claim 1 further recites that "the plurality of function modules receives requests from the

user via the user interface and returns information concerning the compilation of content."

Even assuming that Reynolds teaches a plurality of function modules, there is no teaching

or suggestion that the plurality of function modules return information concerning the

compilation of content. The Examiner asserts that this aspect of the claim is disclosed by

element 206 of Fig. 9. However, element 206 of Fig. 9 merely illustrates generating a request to

view a desired passage, not a compilation of content, and transmitting the request.

The Examiner appears to concede that the Ibook application server 64 does not teach a

plurality of function modules and cites Friedman's module 266 to cure the deficiency. However,

it is respectfully submitted that Friedman does not teach or suggest that module 266 is a plurality

of function modules as required by the claims. Consequently, even if the teachings of Friedman

and Reynolds were combined, as the Examiner asserts, the claimed plurality of function modules

would not be present in the combination. Accordingly, the combination would not satisfy all the limitations of claim 1.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of Friedman and Reynolds as asserted. The Examiner asserts that "the combination would reduce the network traffic and allow the user to access content anywhere without downloading the module into their computers." However, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art that the placement of control display module 266 in an Ibook server application 64 would reduce the network traffic and allow users to access content anywhere particularly since the module 266 of Friedman is merely a display module for displaying a card to a user. Consequently, the Examiner appears to rely on impermissible hindsight to make the asserted combination

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims should be deemed patentable. Since claims 6 and 11 recite similar subject matter, claims 6 and 11 and their dependent claims should be deemed patentable for the same reasons.
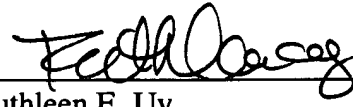
II.   Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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